

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/750,468

Examiner

Brian Ensey

Applicant(s)

STILES, ENRIQUE M.

Art Unit

2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment dated 11/23/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-42.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-42 are allowable. The restriction requirement among Species 1-17, as set forth in the Office action mailed on 11/3/06, has been reconsidered in view of the allowability of claims to the elected invention pursuant to MPEP § 821.04(a). **The restriction requirement is hereby withdrawn as to any claim that requires all the limitations of an allowable claim.** Claim 3, 7, 9, 14-18, 23-36, 38, 40 and 42, directed to Species 1-14, 16 and 17 are no longer withdrawn from consideration because the claim(s) requires all the limitations of an allowable claim.

In view of the above noted withdrawal of the restriction requirement, applicant is advised that if any claim presented in a continuation or divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, a claim that is allowable in the present application, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application.

Once a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention is directed to a laminated motor structure for an electromagnetic transducer. Independent claim 1 identifies the uniquely distinct feature of a first magnetically conductive member comprising a plurality of laminated layer sections which are magnetically coupled to but electrically insulated from each other, wherein the laminated layer sections are separated along boundaries which are

substantially parallel to the axis of the motor assembly in combination with all the disclosed limitations of claim 1. Independent claim 5 identifies the uniquely distinct feature of a first laminated structure in which a plurality of magnetically conductive sections are mechanically coupled together and electrically insulated from each other to prevent eddy currents which would otherwise be induced by an electrical current applied to the voice coil, wherein the magnetically conductive sections are electrically insulated from each other along boundaries substantially parallel to the axis of the voice coil assembly in combination with all the disclosed limitations of claim 5. Independent claim 10 identifies the uniquely distinct feature of at least one of the yoke and the top plate being comprised of multiple components laminated together so as to be electrically insulated from each other, wherein the multiple components are laminated at boundaries substantially parallel to an axis of the electromagnetic motor structure assembly in combination with all the disclosed limitations of claim 10. Independent claim 41 identifies the uniquely distinct feature of at least one of a first and second magnetically conductive member comprising a laminated structure of electrically insulated magnetically conductive sections, which eddy current would otherwise be induced by the electrical signal being conducted through the voice coil, wherein eddy currents induced by the voice coil are interrupted at boundaries between adjoining ones of the magnetically conductive sections, wherein the boundaries are substantially parallel to an axis of movement of the voice assembly in combination with all the disclosed limitations of claim 41. The closest prior art Yamamuro discloses a laminated top plate of a magnetic structure but fails to teach the laminated section is in the proper orientation to prevent eddy current inducement from the voice coil and laminates are parallel to the axis of the voice coil assembly and Zuerker discloses a transducer with an internal magnet structure but fails

to teach a the laminated section is in the proper orientation to prevent eddy current inducement from the voice coil and laminates are parallel to the axis of the voice coil assembly. The prior art fails to anticipate or render the independent claims obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Ensey whose telephone number is 571-272-7496. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 6:00 AM - 2:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh Tran can be reached on 571-272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

Or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300, for formal communications intended for entry and for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT".

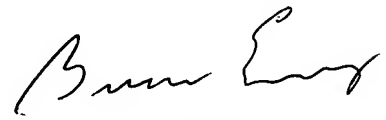
Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Arlington, VA 22314

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


BRIAN ENSEY
PRIMARY EXAMINER
1/28/08